ROM May 1976

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ROM Cover:
Cover with inserted work of coloured broadcloth and embroidery. Persian (Resht), 19th century. The Lillian Massey Treble Collection.

A continuing display of oriental rugs in the main rotunda features four pile rugs :

1. *Caucasus or Northwestern Persia (Kuba.), 18th century.*
2. *Eastern Turkestan (Yarkand), 18th century.*
3. *Caucasus (Shirvan.), 19th century.*
4. *Caucasus (Shirvan.), 19th century.*

These four pieces were all acquired by the first director, Dr. C. T. Currelly, early in the century. The exhibition, "From the Marmora to the Great Wall of China: Oriental Rugs in the ROM" (Textile Galleries, 2nd floor) complements this display.

Newsletter

This month I would like to describe the activities of a very important group in the Museum: the Members' Committee. This group of volunteers, formed in 1957, includes 90 active members and 20 sustaining members. Each member serves at least 60 hours a year, conducting tours or working in curatorial departments, and organizing specific projects such as the Open House held on March 18.

The Open House was a particularly successful event, thanks to the Members' Committee, and Mrs. R. S. Montgomery, Chairman of the Open House Committee, deserves special thanks for her efforts. One of the most exciting aspects of the Open House was the opening of all the laboratory and research areas to the public, with the curators and their staff on hand to answer questions. Over 5,000 people swarmed into the Museum to meet and talk with them. There were guided tours, a showing of slides of the tour guides' recent study trip to the People's Republic of China, and a treasure hunt. Another drawing card was the 23rd Wintario Draw, televised live from the Museum's Armour Court. It all added up to an exciting evening, and attracted many people who would otherwise not have had the opportunity to look behind the scenes.

The Touring Committee is an important part of the Members' Committee. There are 28 active tourers, with 5 more now in the process of being trained. Their function is to conduct daily tours at the main Museum building, Canadiana, and the Planetarium, in addition to special exhibitions.

There are 65 different tours given in the area of Earth and Life Sciences, Far Eastern, European, Planetarium, Ancient Civilizations, Ethnology, Textiles, and Canadiana. A great deal of research and study is required of the dedicated volunteers giving these tours.

The Members' Committee also undertakes special projects, the purpose of which is to provide service to the Museum in various areas, such as membership promotion, and to stimulate interest in Museum activities.

This year they have entered into a new venture with the Education Department. Six members are involved in a programme which takes them to schools to brief pupils prior to a Museum visit.

The Chairman of Museum Volunteers is responsible for about 100 members who have dedicated their services to the Museum. These volunteers give information at the Totem pole desk and help in various capacities throughout the Museum. At present there are volunteer typists in Canadiana, the Membership Office, and the Members' Committee Office.

The Members' Committee is also involved with initiating the World Civilization Tours, with a member accompanying each tour as a co-ordinator. A trip to the Galapagos Islands is being planned for the spring of 1977.

We are, therefore, most grateful to the Members' Committee for its unflagging efforts. On behalf of the institution, and on behalf of all staff I express my sincere appreciation to its Chairman, Mrs. Paul G. Jeffrey, its members and volunteers. They are an integral part of the Museum.

J. E. Cruise

James E. Cruise,
Director

Mrs. Donald Currie (left) Mrs. R. M. Freeman, both of the Members' Committee, promoting Museum membership at the Open House on March 18.

Spotlight

Joseph R. Di Profio named ROM's Assistant Director

Dr. James E. Cruise, Director, has announced the appointment of Joseph Di Profio as Assistant Director responsible for Education and Communication. Mr. Di Profio, whose appointment is effective May 1, was formerly with the Ontario Government as Director, Communication Services Branch, Ministry of Education.

A native of Sydney, N.S., Mr. Di Profio, 36, received a Bachelor of Science degree in 1960 from St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, N.S., and a Master of Education degree in 1975 from the University of Toronto. Prior to joining the civil service, he worked as a journalist with the Sarnia Observer and later became head of the English Department at St. Clair Secondary School, Sarnia. He joined the Ministry of Education in 1968 as a program consultant in English at the regional office in Kingston.

Mr. Di Profio will have jurisdiction over eight departments at the ROM, with responsibility for liaison with educational institutions, exhibitions at the ROM and communities throughout Ontario, information services to public and media, and museology courses conducted for the University of Toronto's School of Graduate Studies.

Mr. Di Profio will work closely with teachers and school boards across Ontario to reorganize and enhance the Museum's services to the 150,000 students who take part annually in the ROM's programs.

Mr. Di Profio is married to the former Judith Tremaine of Sarnia, and has three children, Joseph, 12; Roslyn, 10; and Frederick, 7.

Through a typographical error, the name of Mrs. W. M. Myers of Chatham, Ontario was omitted from the list of Members of the Board of Trustees in the April issue of ROM. Mrs. Myers has been a member of the Board since July, 1972 and was re-appointed last year for a further three-year term. In Chatham, Mrs. Myers is actively associated with Discovery Theatre, an organization concerned with Adult Education.

ROM Open House Held March 18

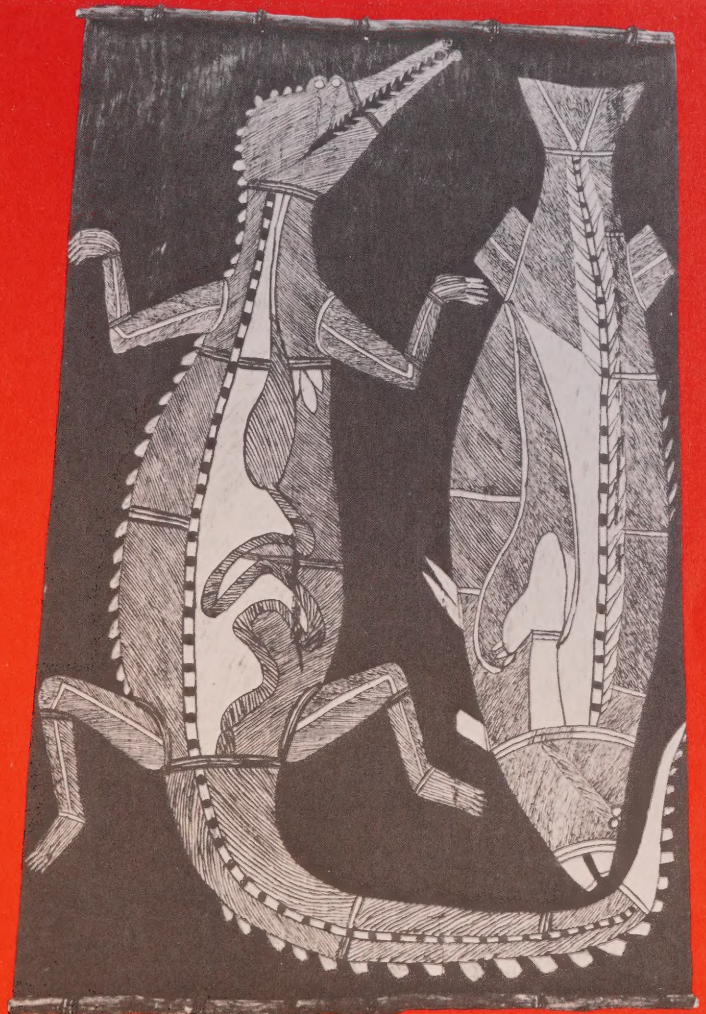
TV host Fred Davis introduces the Honourable Robert Welch, Minister of Culture and Recreation, at the Wintario Draw.

Visitors watch the 23rd Wintario Draw being televised live from the Armour Court.

Preview

May

Royal Ontario Museum
100 Queen's Park, Toronto M5S 2C6



May 1976

Art of Aboriginal Australia to May 24
This exhibition features works which have their roots in a heritage 30,000 years old. The works are a mature product of a long tradition, and there can be no doubt that some of the northern cave or bark drawings are great art.

Significantly, the Aboriginals have no separate words which can be translated as "art" or as "artist", although there are words for painting, carving and incising. They take for granted the beauty of the world around them, of which they are part, and what they produce is essentially in harmony with their surroundings.

For a people limited in their ability to communicate in English, and who in some instances have been in contact with white civilization for less than ten years, this art is a profound form of expression and a channel of insight into a culture thousands of years old.

Circulated by Rothmans of Pall Mall Canada Limited and the Aboriginal Arts Board of the Australian Council for the Arts. Exhibition Hall.

Inside Out May 4 to June 7
An exhibition of creative work by more than 60 ROM staff members is the first show of its kind to be organized by the Staff Association. More than 100 pieces from a variety of media illustrate the artistic talents of the contributors. Third Floor Rotunda.

Our Canadiana Gallery's 25 Years
May 5 to June 6
A photo-exhibition of the growth of the department, its collections and activities.
Lower Rotunda

The Hunter and the Kangaroo, by Malangi
From "Art of Aboriginal Australia"

Life in Rural Ontario in the 19th Century
to June 13
An exhibition featuring watercolour drawings and oil paintings mainly by immigrant artists.
Canadiana Gallery

From the Marmora to the Great Wall of China
to June 27
(Oriental Rugs in the ROM)
A special exhibition of more than 40 carpets and related textiles from Asia Minor, the Caucasus, Persia, Afghanistan, Turkestan, Tibet and China. From felt- to pile- and flat-woven rugs, embroidered carpets and mosaic work, a variety of techniques show the richness of the Museum's collection. A select group of garments from the countries involved is also on display. A small catalogue of the show is available in the Book and Gift Shop.
Textile Galleries, second floor.

Recent Canadian Textile Acquisitions
to June 30
In the last year the Textile Department has added many outstanding examples of Canadian weaving, quilting, and embroidery to its already important collections. These acquisitions are being shown in a small special exhibition. As always, the Textile Department is heavily indebted to private donors. Textile Galleries, second floor.

Stamps
The Medallion Issue of Canada to May 30
Issued in 1932, showing King George V in a medallion motif. Stamp Corner, Lower Rotunda

Dr. Walter M. Tovell to lead Geology Trip to Georgian Bay
Dr. Walter Tovell, Head of Education and Extension Services, will lead a geology trip to the Escarpment along the coast of Georgian Bay. The excursion will leave at 8:30 am, Saturday May 15 from the Museum, returning at approximately 4:30 pm on Sunday, May 16. The tour will include Collingwood, Red Bay, Bruce's Caves, and Inglis Falls, with an overnight stop at Red Bay Lodge, Red Bay, Ontario. Cost of the trip is $42.50 per person. The tour can accommodate 40 people only. For reservations phone Mrs. D. E. Goodhand at 487-5052. For members only.

Lectures

Gold Lecture Series #1

Every other Thursday at 8:00 pm to June 3. ROM Theatre. Free.
An introduction to the "Gold for the Gods" exhibition, which will run from September 28 to November 21, 1976.

May 13 — Pots of Gold in China
by Mrs. Patricia Proctor, Curatorial Assistant, Far Eastern Department. A lecture on gold in China, focusing on the T'ang Dynasty (618-907 A.D.), which is often called China's Golden Age.

May 27 — Gold in the ROM's Lee Collection
by Corey Keeble, Assistant Curator, European Department. A description of the gold and silver objects of the Renaissance, Baroque, and Neo-classical periods in the collection.

June 3 — Gold for the Gods
by Dr. Kent Day, Assistant Curator, Office of the Chief Archaeologist, and Field Director at ROM's archaeological site at Pampa Grande, Peru. The majority of the objects to be shown in the Gold for the Gods exhibition are from royal tombs of people who lived on the Peruvian coast before the time of the Inca.

For information please phone 978-8998.

Planetarium

Fire in the Sky to May 9

This new show in the Theatre of the Stars explores the nature of solar and stellar energy and the methods, both practical and speculative, by which man might tap this virtually inexhaustible source of energy.

Space . . . The Final Frontier

May 13 to October 17

Inhabitants of the planet earth are extraordinarily fortunate. The moon is so close and so large that anyone can see some of its features. In 1969 the oldest science fiction dream was realized when men walked on the lunar surface. The Planetarium considers some of the fantastic schemes that are now being planned as we begin to exploit and understand "Space . . . The Final Frontier".

Theatre of the Stars Show Times

Tuesday to Friday: 3, 7:30 pm
Saturday and Sunday: 1:30, 3, 7:30 pm
Theatre closed on Mondays (except on Holidays). Shows last about 50 minutes. Theatre tickets are $1.50 for adults, $0.75 for senior citizens, students and children, which includes admission to the building displays and Museum. Children under the age of six are not admitted to the Theatre.

Laserium, the entertaining light-and-sound show built around a Krypton gas laser, continues to draw packed houses. Show times are Tuesday to Friday at 8:45 pm and 10.00 pm. Saturdays and Sundays 4:15 pm, 8:45 pm and 10 pm. Cost is $2.75 per person. McLaughlin Planetarium.

ROM Services

ROM Public Hours, 100 Queen's Park

Tuesday to Saturday: 10 am to 9 pm
Sunday: 1 to 9 pm
Monday: 10 am to 5 pm
Adult admission 50 cents, free after 5 pm. Accompanied children free. Senior citizens and students with identification free.
The ROM's location, Avenue Road at Bloor, is convenient to both the MUSEUM and BAY subway stations.

ROM Libraries

The Reference Library, on the second floor, is open Monday to Friday from 10 am to 5 pm. The Library of the Far Eastern Department is also open Monday to Friday from 10 am to 5 pm. The Astronomical Library, in the McLaughlin Planetarium, is open Saturdays, 10 am to 5 pm.

ROM Restaurants

A comfortable restaurant serving hot lunches and snacks is located on the main floor by the Armour Court, and is open until 7:30 pm. (It closes Monday at 5 pm.) The Dinosaur Den, children's cafeteria on the Lower Level, closes at 4 pm.

ROM Shops

This month the theme in the Book and Gift Shop is Art of Aboriginal Australia. There is a selection of prints and posters, and Aboriginal paintings on bark. Boomerangs, didgeridoos, and carved wooden animals are also for sale. Tiwi prints on linen are available. In small supply are some original watercolour paintings of central Australia by Aboriginal artists. There are also uncut and carved opals from Australia.

Book and Gift Shop Hours

Monday: 10:30 am to 5:00 pm
Tuesday to Thursday: 10:30 am to 6:30 pm
Friday and Saturday: 10:30 am to 5:00 pm
Sunday: 1 to 5 pm
Mini Shop: closes daily at 4:30 pm

Sigmund Samuel Canadiana Building

14 Queen's Park Crescent West. Free admission.
Monday to Saturday: 10 am to 5 pm
Sunday: 1 to 5 pm

Information

Museum: 978-3690
Planetarium: 978-8550

Preview Cover:
Crocodile and Barramundi, by Nguleingulei. From the special exhibition, "Art of Aboriginal Australia"

Members' Lounge

A quiet licensed lounge, down the stairs by the main restaurant, is available to members of ROM. Monday: 12-5 pm; Tuesday to Friday: 12-9 pm. No service between 3:30 and 4:30 pm. A light lunch — (sandwiches and salad) is now available from 12 to 2 pm. The Lounge will be open during May and June on weekends from 3 to 5 pm, on a trial basis. It will be staffed by volunteers. Coffee only will be served.

ROM Membership

Membership in the Museum is a rewarding experience. For $25 annually (individual) or $40 (family with 2 cards), a member receives free admission to ROM, use of the licensed Members' Lounge, a 10 percent discount on purchases over $2.00 at ROM's Shops, invitations to Preview parties, *ROM* the monthly bulletin and *Rotunda* the quarterly magazine. For residents outside Metropolitan Toronto, individual annual membership is $15. Lifetime Membership in the Museum is also invited as follows:

Life: $500
Fellow: $1,000
Benefactor: $2,500
Endowment: $5,000
Patron: $10,000

Lifetime membership categories are income tax deductible. For further information call 978-3704 or write to the Membership Office.

Members who would like to arrange to receive the Archaeological Newsletter can do so by writing to the Office of the Chief Archaeologist or by phoning 978-3651.

Tours

The general tour of the ROM, "Impressions of the ROM — A Walking Tour", is now scripted in French and German, and is done only on request.

ROM Gallery Tours

Weekdays, except holidays. Free with Museum admission. Tours subject to change.

May at 12:15		at 2 pm
3	Oriental Carpets	Art of Aboriginal Australia
4	Chinese Porcelain	" " " "
5	Splendours of the Baroque	" " " "
6	Impressions of the ROM	" " " "
7	Nature's Jewels	" " " "
10	19th Century Rooms	" " " "
11	Impressions of the ROM	" " " "
12	Windows on Nature's World	" " " "
13	Oriental Carpets	" " " "
14	Glory of Athens	" " " "
17	Oriental Carpets	" " " "
18	Egypt	" " " "
19	European Porcelain	" " " "
20	Geology: The Changing Earth	" " " "
21	Native Peoples of Canada	" " " "
25	European Glass	Masks and Ceremonials
26	Impressions of the ROM	Romance of Jade
27	Oriental Carpets	The Enigma of the Etruscans
28	Ancient Greece	Impressions of the ROM
31	Oriental Carpets	Animals in Chinese Art

There are free tours of the special exhibition, "Art of Aboriginal Australia", each weekday until May 21.

Planetarium Tours

Tuesdays and Thursdays at 2 pm
in McLaughlin Planetarium

Canadiana Tours

May at 12:15

5 Oven to Table
12 Canadian Heritage
19 It's About Time and Clocks
26 Canadian Heritage

Inside ROM

Geochronology at the ROM

To geologists there is nothing more important or plentiful than time. When the earth formed about 4,500 million years ago, its crust — that portion available for direct observation — developed through an almost infinite sequence of geological events. Minerals and textures of rocks and rock associations record these events, but without detailed knowledge of their order, a coherent geological history cannot be constructed. Although relative time can be established by geological mapping and by identifying fossil remains in rocks, 85 per cent of the earth's crust evolved before the appearance of abundant life which left a fossil record.

Thus, a new branch of geology, geochronology, was developed. Geochronologists can be described as geologists who have mastered sophisticated techniques in chemistry and electronic instrumentation to measure the ages of rocks. In this way they gain information about the history of geological formations that cannot be obtained otherwise. In addition to relying heavily on chemistry and physics, geochronologists co-operate closely with geologists who map and study the rocks.

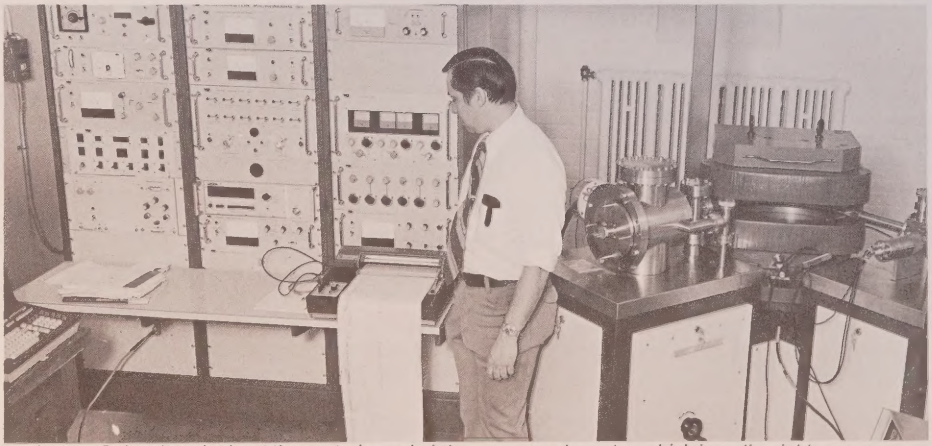
Because many geological events have a time span of only a few tens of millions of years, the amount of error in dating rocks is critical in unravelling geological history. For example, in a recent study of the famous Sudbury Nickel Irruptive, which contains some of the world's largest nickel deposits, Dr. Thomas E. Krogh, ROM's Associate Curator of Geology, determined the age of two different samples within one million years, using newly developed geochronological techniques. Other techniques used to date the same rocks yielded ages differing by more than 200 million years, but individual ages had errors ranging from 50 to 125 million years. Although one million years, by normal standards, is a long time, it is "but a tick of the geological clock".

The technique used by Dr. Krogh was developed by him while on staff at the Carnegie Institution in Washington. It is a new, highly precise method of age dating which provides a powerful tool to aid in unravelling the complex events recorded by the Precambrian rocks (the earth's oldest crustal rocks) which account for 85 per cent of the earth's geological history.

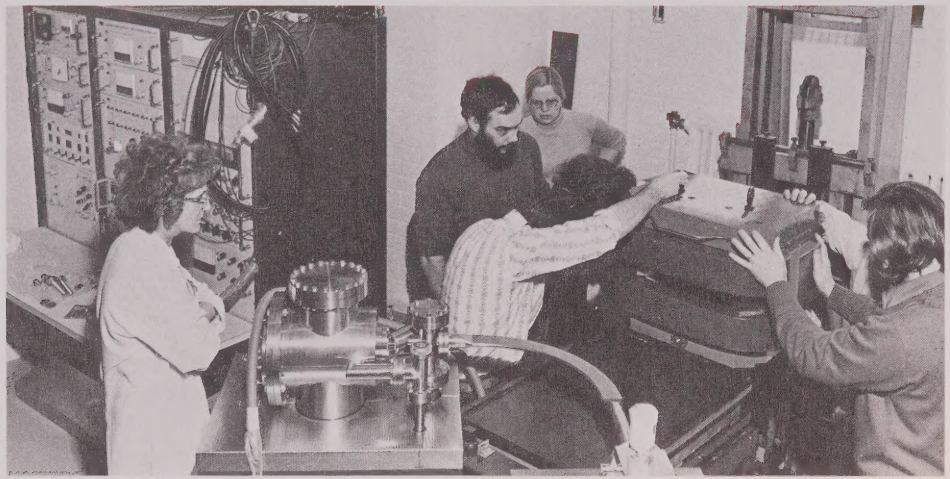
Precambrian rocks also contain a major portion of the earth's mineral resources. These rocks are extremely important to the Canadian mining industry because they account for more than half the rocks in Canada accessible for scientific study and mineral exploration. In Ontario, for example, nearly two-thirds of the exposed rocks are Precambrian.

One needs only to reflect upon the significant role that the mining industry plays in the economy and development of Ontario to appreciate the importance of geology in our lives. Most of the Precambrian mineral deposits in Canada exposed at the surface have now been located, with many of the accessible deposits having been developed. The continuing, strong demand for additional mineral resources have resulted in great emphasis being placed upon the development of new exploration techniques and the application of geochronology to problems of the origin and history of Precambrian rocks.

Because of the importance of geochronology in Precambrian research, the Geology and Mineralogy Departments at the ROM were able to negotiate a $300,000 capital grant from the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources to build an advanced geochronology laboratory in a joint venture with the Ministry. Dr. Krogh agreed



Dr. Sydney B. Lumbers looks at the control panel of the mass spectrometer, which is on the right.



Installing the 600-pound magnet on the mass spectrometer.

to join in this project, and returned from the United States to head the new laboratory.

The Ontario Division of Mines, Ministry of Natural Resources, has long been engaged in Precambrian studies, and they lent their support to the laboratory through the sponsorship of their own geochronologist, Dr. Paul Nunes. Dr. Nunes, formerly with the United States Geological Survey at Denver, Colorado, was appointed to carry out the Ministry's geochronological studies at the laboratory.

This increased emphasis on Precambrian research will not only strengthen the Ministry's programme, but will also benefit the laboratory and all geologists.

Work started on the new ROM laboratory immediately following receipt of the grant from the Ministry in July, 1975. The Mineralogy and Geology Departments were amalgamated into the new Department of Mineralogy and Geology, and space and equipment in these departments were reorganized to accommodate the new facility. The new laboratory has been installed in what was formerly the Geology Department, and should be in operation by the late summer of this year.

At present, work is being done in the calibration of analytical instruments, at the heart of which is a mass spectrometer. This highly complex instrument, used to carry out isotopic analyses, is fully automated and monitored by a computer. The computer greatly enhances the efficiency of the laboratory and enables several geochronologists to simultaneously use the facility at any given time. A variety of related equipment is used in the operation, ranging from rock-crushing machines to intricate chemical laboratory hardware. Much of this equipment was custom-fabricated by manufacturers as far apart as Toronto and Britain.

The ROM is renowned as one of Canada's leading research institutions in the natural sciences. By locating the new laboratory here, it can develop into a much-needed major centre of excellence in geochronology. Once the facility is in full-scale operation, it will most probably be made available to qualified researchers from government, universities, and industry supported by appropriate research grants.

There is nothing more plentiful than geological time, and there are few things more fascinating or demanding than its measurement.
Sydney B. Lumbers,
Curator,
Mineralogy and Geology

Canadiana Open House on March 23

Mrs. Helen Ignatieff, Assistant Curator, Canadiana (right), identifies Canadiana glass for visitors.

New Members of the Royal Ontario Museum

Annual

Mrs. A. Andrews
Mr. D. S. Bethune
Mr. & Mrs. W. J. Blackburn
Mr. L. V. Block
Mrs. L. Bullen
Mr. P. J. Callaghan
Mrs. E. A. C. Campbell
Mr. Y. Chan
Mr. K. E. Chilton
Mrs. C. E. Cleland
Mr. P. F. Counahan
Mrs. S. Cullen
Miss M. C. Cutler
Mr. M. Davidson
Mrs. I. Den Bok
Dr. A. R. Emery
Mrs. J. Y. Ereaux
Mr. P. Etherington
Dr. & Mrs. D. G. Fagan
Mrs. A. H. Fox
Mrs. N. M. Fox
Dr. & Mrs. N. Frye
Miss B. Gallivan
Mrs. P. Genest
Mr. & Mrs. P. Gilchrist
Miss J. Gore
Ms. A. Greenwood
Mr. W. L. Greenwood
Mr. & Mrs. P. M. Greiner
Mrs. J. Grieve
Mrs. J. Griffiths
Miss S. L. Hannon
Ms. M. Harding
Mr. S. Harding
Mr. W. J. Harding
Mrs. A. S. Haydock
Miss J. Hibbard
Ms. J. Hughes
Ms. W. Hughes
Mr. M. Jaeger
Mr. P. James
Mr. & Mrs. R. James
Ms. B. Janney
Mr. G. P. Johnson
Mr. H. Johnson
Mrs. M. Kelly
Mrs. M. P. Kerber
Mr. P. Lakas
Miss N. M. Leslie
Mrs. R. V. LeSueur
Mr. I. T. Lindsay
Mrs. C. Masters
Mr. & Mrs. B. McBain
Mrs. W. D. McKeough
Ms. K. E. Melville
Mrs. E. G. Millard
Mr. B. Miller
Mr. A. J. Murray
Mr. D. Murray
Mrs. M. K. Nordin
Mr. D. Outhet
Miss B. Painter
Ms. J. I. Park
Mrs. M. L. Pendock
Miss J. L. Penfold
Mr. R. Pfeiffer
Mrs. M. Pinkerton
Mrs. J. D. Purdon
Miss S. Rae
Mr. P. Rhead
Miss R. B. Robinson
Dr. & Mrs. C. H. Rorabeck
Mrs. E. Scott
Dr. & Mrs. M. Shea
Mr. C. D. Shearing
Mrs. C. B. Singer
Mrs. C. M. Smith
Mrs. A. J. Solomon
Miss S. Spilsbury
Ms. D. Stern
Mr. & Mrs. A. R. Stewart
Mr. & Mrs. K. A. Thomas
Mr. E. Thomson
Mrs. J. C. Tilley
Mrs. I. L. Turner
Mr. H. Vanstone
Ms. P. Wente
Mr. P. M. White
Mr. P. Wilhelm
Mrs. N. Wintersgill
Mrs. G. Wright

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